

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



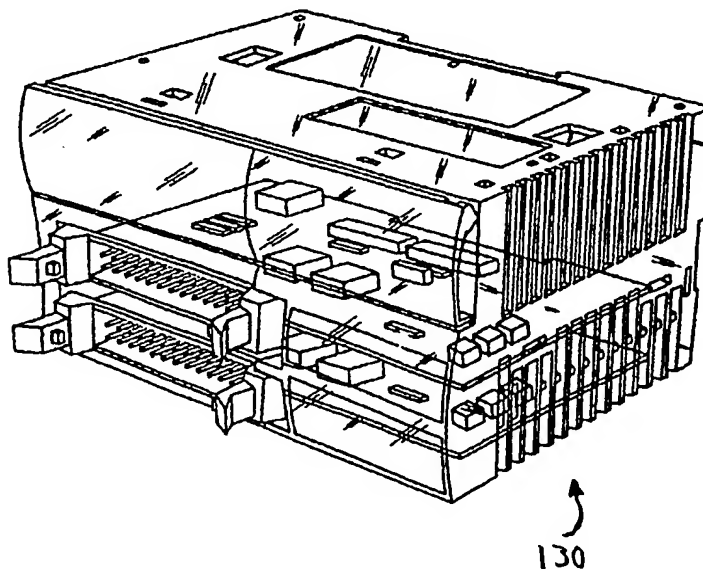
(43) International Publication Date
28 August 2003 (28.08.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/071845 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: H05K 7/14 (74) Agent: GOLDEN, Larry, I.; General Patent Counsel, Square D Company, 1415 S. Roselle Road, Palatine, IL 60067 (US).
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US03/04404
- (22) International Filing Date: 14 February 2003 (14.02.2003) (84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SI, SK, TR).
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data: 10/077,564 15 February 2002 (15.02.2002) US
- (71) Applicant: SCHNEIDER AUTOMATION INC. [US/US]; One High Street, North Andover, MA 01845 (US).
- (72) Inventors: DROULIN, Jean-Louis; 1 Cardinal Lane, Andover, MA 01810 (US). TIXADOR, Jean-Marc; 1838 Avenue des Plans, 06270 Villeneuve Loubet (FR).
- Published:
— with international search report
— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: A METHOD OF CREATING A MENTAL IMPRESSION OF COMPATIBLE INDUSTRIAL AUTOMATION DEVICES



(57) Abstract: A method for suggesting a transparent factory concept is disclosed. The method includes creating mental impression of compatible industrial automation devices. The housings of the devices are substantially transparent and create a visual impression and prompt the visual impression of substantially transparent housings to create a mental image of compatibility.

WO 03/071845 A1

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 03/04404

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 H05K7/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 H05K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | IT 1 244 572 B (MASPER S R L) 28 July 1994 (1994-07-28) the whole document | 1-10 |
| X | US 4 767 003 A (PETERMAN MILTON J ET AL) 30 August 1988 (1988-08-30) abstract | 1-10 |
| A | DE 199 50 658 A (FUNK DREIDIMENSIONAL ENTWICKLU) 26 April 2001 (2001-04-26) the whole document | 1-10 |
| A | EP 0 910 234 A (VIPA GES FUER VISUALISIERUNG U) 21 April 1999 (1999-04-21) claim 5 | 1-10 |
| -/- | | |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the International filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the International filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

4 July 2003

Date of mailing of the International search report

14/07/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5618 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Castagné, O

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/US 03/04404

| C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT | | |
|--|---|-----------------------|
| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
| A | CH 595 638 A (LANDIS & GYR AG) 15 February 1978 (1978-02-15) the whole document ----- | |
| A | US 5 677 830 A (NOGAS DAVID A ET AL) 14 October 1997 (1997-10-14) the whole document ----- | |

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 03/04404

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|---|---------------------|---|--|
| IT 1244572 | B | 28-07-1994 | NONE | |
| US 4767003 | A | 30-08-1988 | GB 2190362 A , B HK 39990 A IL 80089 A JP 6084172 B JP 63501068 T KR 9101655 B1 WO 8702544 A1 | 18-11-1987 01-06-1990 29-11-1990 26-10-1994 21-04-1988 16-03-1991 23-04-1987 |
| DE 19950658 | A | 26-04-2001 | DE 19950658 A1 DE 29924046 U1 | 26-04-2001 20-09-2001 |
| EP 0910234 | A | 21-04-1999 | DE 29718106 U1 EP 0910234 A2 | 11-12-1997 21-04-1999 |
| CH 595638 | A | 15-02-1978 | CH 595638 A5 DE 7537106 U1 | 15-02-1978 16-06-1976 |
| US 5677830 | A | 14-10-1997 | CA 2152965 A1 DE 19607248 A1 GB 2298452 A , B | 03-09-1996 05-09-1996 04-09-1996 |